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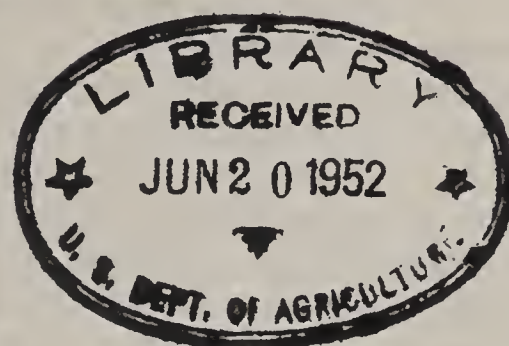
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# 0 3 X MORE GRASS, — MORE MEAT



## The Reseeding Program Needed To Make National Forest Grasslands Fully Productive

Approximately 4,000,000 acres of range lands in our National Forests urgently need reseeding. These lands can and should be restored to full productivity so that they can make their maximum contribution to our national welfare and security.

Many of these ranges were overgrazed and the valuable forage cover largely destroyed before their inclusion in the National Forests. Some further damage resulted from emergency overstocking with livestock during World War I. At present so little forage grows on these areas that it has practically no value in providing feed for sheep and cattle and protecting the soil from erosion.

## National Forest Ranges Are of Vital Importance

Western National Forest ranges--over 70,000,000 acres in extent --now provide seasonal grazing, chiefly under paid permit, for 9,000,000 head of cattle and sheep. In addition, these same ranges support a large part of this country's big-game and other wildlife populations. The big-game herds in the western National Forests comprise approximately 2,000,000 animals.

Besides making an important contribution to the Nation's meat supply, most National Forest ranges are important watershed lands. Irrigation farmers, power companies, and hundreds of towns and cities depend upon the National Forests for their water supplies. National Forests supply a major portion of the water on which the whole economy of the Western States depends. Some \$300,000,000 worth of water flows from the National Forests annually. Hydroelectric power generated from that water is worth over \$30,000,000.

## The Anderson-Mansfield Act

In the Anderson-Mansfield Act (Public Law 348, 81st Congress) Congress recognizes that restoration of range lands is a national problem and authorized appropriations for the reseeding of National Forest ranges on a plan-wise basis with the idea of completing it in a 15-year period. The act authorizes appropriations in amounts beginning with \$1,500,000 for the fiscal year 1951 and progressively increasing to \$3,000,000 in 1955. Thereafter the annual authorization is \$3,000,000 until the final year of the program, 1965. Congress actually appropriated \$725,000 for the fiscal year 1951.

## What the Forest Service Has Done In Reseeding Depleted Ranges

The Forest Service has successfully reseeded 333,000 acres of range land to date. The results demonstrate conclusively that reseeding is both practical and economical. Grazing capacity of some of the range has been increased more than tenfold by reseeding.

On the basis of research studies and plantings already completed, the Forest Service plants the proper species of grasses which will do best under the various soil and weather conditions encountered in the field. The Forest Service has also developed special types of equipment partly adapted for reseeding work in the rough range country.

## Public Benefits To Be Gained

By restoration of the depleted ranges, an estimated 2,500,000 additional animal-unit-months of grazing each year would be provided for domestic livestock under paid permit. Reseeding will also establish a good vegetative cover which will stabilize the soil and check erosion. Furthermore, a well-protected watershed insures a more stable supply of clean, usable water, and helps to prevent floods.

Besides furnishing a good protective cover for important watershed lands, reseeding will enable National Forest ranges to contribute fully to our Nation's economy and security by providing increased supplies of vitally needed wool, meat, and leather.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
2 U. S. FOREST SERVICE

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